Visit of Russian Trade Delegation to India

6483. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Russian Trade delegation visited New Delhi in the middle of October, 1996; and

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcomes thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) No, Sir. No Russian Trade Delegation at the Governmental level visited India in the middle of October, 1996.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Jute

6484. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be p'eased to state :

(a) The steps taken by the Government to promote the export of jute;

(b) the total value of goods made from jute exported during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the target fixed for 1997-98 in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) The steps taken by the Govenment to promote the export of jute goods inter-alia include implementation of 'External Market Assistance (EMA)' Scheme for the exporters, participation with trade participants in international fairs, organising Buyer-Seller Meets, Workshops, Sponsoring overseas delegations–Market Exploratory Missions etc. in order to generate demand, create awareness and explore new markets.

(b) During the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (Upto January 1997) jute goods worth Rs. 487.73 Cr., Rs. 634.71 Cr. and Rs. 417.77 Cr., respectively, were exported.

(c) A target or US $ 180 million has been fixed for 1997-98.

[English]

Powerloom Service Centre

6485. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the plan outlay for setting up powerloom service centre in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the funds earmarked for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) and (b) It has been decided that no new poweloom service centre will be opened in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The existing centres will be strengthened and modernised. Hence, no funds has been earmarked for opening of powerloom service centre in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Coal Mines in Maharashtra

6486. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal mines in Maharashtra;

(b) the production of coal from those mines during the last three years;

(c) whether these coal mines are not running in profit; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) There are 49 working coal mines of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited, in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) Production of coal from these mines during the last three years is as under :-

	(In million tonnes)
1994-95	21.07
1995-96	22.83
1996-97	24.86 (Provisional)

(c) 49 mines of WCL in Maharashtra have been grouped in 38 cost centres for assessment of profit and loss position of the mines. Out of the 38 cost centres, 24 are earning profit while the remaining 14 are incurring losses.

(d) Of the 14 loss making cost centres, 12 are represented by underground coal mines affected by adverse geomining conditions. The remaining 2 cost centres are represented by opencast mines which are incurring losses on account of adverse stripping ratio, that is, the ratio of cubic meters of overburden removal per tonne of coal production.